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The Fox with his Fire-brand Unken-
nell'd and Insnar'd :

Or, a SHORT
ANSWER

TO *H. Defoe*
Mr. DANIEL FOE's
Shortest Way with the Dissenters.

As also to his
Brief Explanation of the same.

Together with some Animadversions upon the
Sham Reflections made upon his Shortest
Way, and Printed with the same.

Nec in his quisquam damnatus & exul. Ovid. Met.

O socii ! (neque ignari sumus ante malorum.)

O passi graviora ! dedit Deus his quoque finem. Virg. Æneid.

No Men have been more injuriously used, as to their
Rights, than the Bishops and Church-men : These
Deer, must be destroy'd & other Rascals of Schismes,
Heresies, &c. being the benefit of a Tolerance.
K. Char. on the

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A Short Answer to Mr. Foe's Short Way and Brief Explan- ation, &c.

TO be short and brief with him: It is granted him Vid. *Short Way and Brief Explan-
ation*, pag. 1. that he is a very *Ironical* Gentleman all over: That he has a very *Ironical* Name, but is still more Knave than Fool: That he has a very *Ironical* Style, but what abounds with more Malice than Wit: But that he is free from any *seditions Design*, is such an *Irony*, that it must move Laughter more than Attention or Belief, and make a Jest of himself and the Government together; at this rate of *Explanation*, Mrs. Cellier's *Meal-Tub*, *Fitz Harris's Libel*, Robert Young's *Flower-Pot-Association*, and Fuller's *Shams* upon the Parliament, and some of our best Ministers of State, were all *Ironies* too; but such a fatal *Irony* it was to *Fitz Harris*, that he was fairly hang'd for it in *good earnest*, and so should the rest have been, if they had met with their due. Mr. Foe's *Ironical* Vein has only this for its Vindication, which must make it too the greater Jest, That those Knights of the Post only design'd their Libels and Associations for the Pockets of particular Persons; but Mr. Foe, with a *Shorter Way* indeed, paums his upon the whole Government and Constitution at once; and very *Ironically* dresses up the Church and State in the Lions and Bears Skin, and such *Ironical Figures* as are not to be found in the Tropes of our Modern Rhetorick, but a barbarous *Irony* that was much practised by the Old Romans on the Primitive Christians, the better to bring their Dogs to worry them.

If his Libel had no relation to the publick Proceedings of the Parliament and Government at this juncture, how came it to be publish'd? As if written to shew *what Spirit they were of*: If he had not design'd it for a general Character of our Constitution, and the present Temper of our Church, Court, and Parliament, it had been but Justice and Honesty in him, for nothing less than that could have cleared it from a *Seditious Design*, by way of Advertisement or Appendix; or, to use his *Ironical* Stile by way of Prologue or Epilogue, to have given the World some intimation of those Papers and Pamphlets, Books and Sermons which had vented their Gall in such a Satyrical vein against the *Dissenters*; which, had he not forgot his *Farnaby*, or read any Rhetorick at all, instead of *Irony*, he must have call'd it the most bitter Satyr or *Sarcasm*; for Satyrs, tho' they have some humane shape above, are known by their Tails or Cloven-feet below: And, if our Author had been bred a Scholar instead of a Hosier, he would have found another kind of Figure for *making other Peoples Thoughts speak in his words*. But, after all, his *Brief Explanation* falls very short of clearing him from *Seditious Designs*; for, all the while, not a Syllable of all that Satyr or *Sarcasm*, Virulency or Malice, or persecuting Spirit is to be seen in those Sermons and Pamphlets upon which he would so *Ironically* sham it; for if it be not to be seen in their *Words and Works*, plain, and *at length*, (as himself allows) he is the more malicious and wicked, to charge them with it; so that his plain *English*, 'tis plain, was not *without Design*. It plainly told them, That God's peculiar People were to have their *Tryals again of Mockings and Scourgings, Bonds and Imprisonments, of the Gallies and Gallows*: And come, my Brethren, come up and help the Lord against the Mighty, **was the darker English of it**. If this were *Irony* too, so was *Guy Faux's* dark Lanthorn, when it came to blow up the Government!

Vid. *Brief
Explan.*
p. 2.

Ibid.

But then, for so rigid a Dissenter, so strict a Nonconformist! Who hath so constantly opposed (as he says) all *Occasional*

nal Conformity; for such an one to lay about him with Fire and Faggot, at the same time the Pious, Charitable Bill was passing, for the suppressing of this damnable Hypocrisie, to which, even the *Calvinists* of *Holland*, in their *Harlem Courant*, have given their Approbation: This, I confess, seems a very odd sort of *Irony*; and with all his splitting of Words, (and tho' he could split Hairs too) not to be distinguished from *seditions Design*.

We thank him, in short, for the *short Explanation* of the meaning of this Paper, and the telling of us the *plain English* of the Thing that other People mean; but is it not the greatest *Irony* in the World, for him to pretend to know other Peoples meaning better than his own?

Was this the way to rectifie their Mistakes? To set the mistaken Gentlemen aright in every Particular? To let them know that it will not go down? That the Queen, the Council, the Parliament are all offended to have it so much as suggested? And all this to be told them, and learnt by them, out of the most virulent Satyr that ever was writ for their Persecution ever since the first Reformation: If this be the Sense of it, it is then the most dextrous Hocus Pocus, or Diabolical Conjuring! And he must have a very transforming Maw, or a very good slight of Hand, that will spew us up Claret or Blood, Knives or Daggers, and at the same time, to make us believe, 'tis all the same Wine and Sugar-plumbs that he swallow'd before.

'Tis hard indeed, after all, that this should not be perceiv'd by all the Town; That not one Man can see it, neither Church-man nor Dissenter!

I must confess only for my self; for the Dissenters, he knows best the texture of their Opticks: I would no more have my Nose saddl'd with his Spectacles, than I would make Spectacles for a blind Bear; for if we must see as Mr. Foe sees, 'tis plain, we must see double; and if Church-man and Dissenter must believe as Mr. Foe wou'd have them believe, we had as good never have made the

Ibid.
P. 3.

p. 4.

the stand in K. J. Reign, but swallow'd Transubstantiation with the Wafer: I do assure him, without the help of any Spectacles at all, I did, as soon as I saw this *Short way with Dissenters*, assert it to be a piece of their own Party's putting out; and wonder'd the Government let it go unregarded so long: At this rate, Mr. *Foe* is the only [seeing Man, and Wise Man in the Nation, and all the rest a parcel of Blind Fools, only fit to be banter'd. Surely this Author is all Conceit as well as all *Irony*: The Dissenters were only angry, that no Church-man in Sermon or Print, would oblige them with such a virulent Satyr; and so, with the *Assyrian* Captain's Reply, let Mr. *Foe* remember too the words of *Rabshekah*, and consider how most *Ironically*, he has brought himself to eat his own Dung, and drink his own Piss.

The Dissenters must thank him now for making a *Shorter Way* for their *Occasional Bill* to pass both Houses; or, if it fail, to be soon reviv'd, since here we have a Rigid Dissenter, and a *constant Opposer*, (as he calls himself) of their *Occasional Hypocrisie*, (for that is the plain *English* of it, and we can't without *Irony* too, call it *Conformity*) bringing us all the Arguments for a speedy and bloody Persecution of his own Party; and giving us the most strenuous Answers to all the most reasonable Objections that might be alledged against it, and both with more Malice, Satyr and Cruelty, than ever was shewn them in *England*, since we were a Protestant People, or ever they could have met with under a Popish Persecution. If the Government had let it go unregarded, the Bantling had been infallibly laid by them at St. James's Gate, or the Chappel-door. *Qui non prohibent tenentur*, had been the word; and since we have found the true Father; 'tis surely most fitting that he should keep the Child too. But can any Body of common Sense, say or think (without making a Jest or *Irony* of himself,) That this was no *Seditious Design*, to put a Bastard upon the Government.

I have that good Opinion of the Moderation and Temper of the Government, that if this virulent and flagitious Paper had been found upon one of these *High-flyers* of the Church (as this our Monsieur *Foe* most *Ironically* calls them) Our Ministers, I am perswaded, would have done themselves and the Dissenters that Justice, so as to have made him a publick Example: But the Malice is surely the more Propense and Mischievous, when all this nefarious and false Politicks shall be so injuriously, and unjustly, paum'd upon them by a Zealous Biggot, and *High-flyer* of their own Party.

This Spirit of Persecution which they would charge upon the Church with more Spight and Malice than ever their Proceedings against them have deserv'd (what ever were the just Resentments of some Church-men upon the Restoration; for those Cruel Usages they had from themselves before it, beyond what ever they met with after, or, what ever were the Influence of Popish Counsels, (which make *Toleration Occasional* too; and allow or Deny it according as they find it convenient) after all, 'tis certain, there is none of this Persecuting Spirit has appear'd among Church-men these Twenty years, and what they may not hear of these Forty more: If they had had the modesty or ingenuity to have consider'd how open, even those *High-flyers*, as they make them, were in King *James's* time, to meet and receive them; and how Obstinate and Sullen, Insolent and Daring their own *High-flyers* were when got upon the Wings of *Toleration*, and which were only Waxen ones too, which would soon have failed them, and made their fall the greater: If they would Consider how the very Church-men (for such they must be, unless they could imagin that *Occasional Conformity* made the Majority of the Two Houses, and that even the *High-flyers*, among our Bishops, were *Occasional Conformists* too;) were those that helped them to that Establish'd *Toleration* they now enjoy: If they would reflect upon their own *High flights*, or that grateful Condescension which they shew'd

shew'd to the Church Party, for the great moderation shewn them; how they turn'd even those out of all Commission, who had Frankly voted for their *Toleration*, and how strongly they labour'd to turn that *Toleration* into a National Establishment: If Mr. *Foe* had remembred that *Occasional Judge*, as well as his *Occasional Lord Mayor*, who in the Charge of his Circuit, settled the Conventicle on the same Foundation with the Cathedral: they would all have found but little *Occasion* to reflect upon the fiery Spirit of the Church Party, but more upon their own Puritanical Zeal, which of course, is always accompany'd with so much Imprudence and Ingratitude.

* Vid.
Brief Expl.
P. 3.

It is, with a bold Front, that he charges the Church Party and the Government too (if he will give us leave too, *to speak his Thoughts in our words*) with a design to break through the * *Act of Settlement*, and laying aside the Line of *Hanover*, when about the same time his *Short Way* was Publish'd, there was Printed also an audacious Paper for that very Purpose, which, from their own Party, so officiously handing about, I imagin'd to be their own Bantling also, and laid it at their Door; and by what is fallen out since, can find no better Father for it than himself.

Upon the whole, here is apparent the most villanous Conspiracy against Church and State, that has been form'd since the last Revolution; and in as narrow Compass as it seems to lie at present among these Puny Scriblers; spreads wider, and takes its Root from some Topping Grandees in our Modern Politicks. 'Tis hop'd the great Council of the Nation, or the Lords of Her Majesty's Council, to whom he applies his *brief*, but *dark Explanation*, will search into the bottom of all this Conspiracy, and find out the top of all his Accomplices, which will be as good a Step as any they have made since Her Majesties stepping into the Throne; for 'tis plain, here are the only two things (whatever Mr. *Foe fancies*) brought upon the Stage to *inflame and divide us at home*, as well as endanger us from abroad. Mr. *Foe* will not

not have Church-men nor Dissenters to think so; but he must first cut off their Noses, and put out their Eyes, before he can perswade them not to Smell, or not to See. They began to fear that the Church-Party would not come up to that *high flight*, or Spirit of Persecution, or dangerous Innovation, of breaking through their *Act of Toleration*, or that *Act of Settlement*; and therefore in this juncture, they thought it fittest to do it for them: And in all probability, since our *dull and dark English* would not come up to Mr. Foe's Design, he and his Party have made it speak *French or German*, and sent both these their Libels, as they have done some Grandees amongst themselves, to the Court of *Hanover*, to let them see what the Sense of our *English Court* is, in relation to *Religion and Succession*; and, at this rate, if God be so gracious to bless Her Majesty with a Prince; by the same *Irony*, they already tell us what a sort of Prince they intend to make of it; for my part, I must seriously profess, that instead of *Irony*, [for Mr. Foe must give us leave, as well as himself, to guess at Peoples Meanings and Pointings to the same effect] I take it to have the same tendency and design with *Samuel Johnson's Letter or Address to the Army*, to raise us an Insurrection; at the same time he was *praying in a Foreign Aid*. And indeed, we must think again, and again, [as arrogantly as he assumes it to himself] before we can think him a good Patriot; tho' we are willing to think him, as he thinks himself, solely Qualify'd to make a Venture like this, for the good of his Native Country, and yet don't design to be so scurrilous to call him (what he says he has ventur'd to make all Mankind to do) **villain and Craptor**: Tho' I must confess, I think it had been better for him he had kept to his Burning of Bricks, or Selling of Stockings, as the best way to keep him from dying in his Shoes.

Brief Ex-
plan. p. 4.

B

But

But as innocent as he wou'd make the matter and himself, these two Libels for persecuting the Dissenters, and laying aside the Line of *Hanover*, which they design'd to sham upon the Church-Party and the Government, will not, it seems, satisfy their Malice, unless they propagate the Mischief farther: And least this *Short Way with Dissenters* shou'd lose its efficacy, by being damn'd in the Discovery, they have fetch'd a wider Compass with their *Short Way*, and printed it over again at length, with a sham Answer at the Tail of it, that, like a Comet, it might be the more regarded, and blaze the more; and our Secretaries of State will do as much Service to the Publick, if they send their Messengers in quest of the Author of the *Reflections* upon that late Scandalous and Malicious Pamphlet: Published *first*, to take occasion to re-print the Libel again at length: And, *Secondly*, with those *Reflections* to libel all the Reigns, and all our Church Government from the first Reformation to the Reign of King *William*. 'Tis well if the same Author, or some of his Accomplices be not found the Author of that too: But tho' the *Reflector* will not think the Author of the *Short Way* to be a Dissenter, who is found now to be one of their very *High-flyers*; his *Reflections* shew him a very invidious Dissenter, and scandalous Protestant, who can so scurrilously revile all our eminent Reformers, and the Princes that procured and continued to us the Reformation. With what Face, unless it be all Brass, and all *Corinthian* too, can those who do all this, Libel and traduce all those who make any *Reflections* upon the late Reign of King *William*? We acknowledge his timely Aid, and a Crown was his Remuneration; but themselves can't have the Face to say, That the Church, as established by our True and Orthodox Reformers (what ever it was *before*) was so much his care *after* he had wrought our Deliverance. One would think

Vid. pref.
to the Re-
flect.

think these Advocates among the Dissenters, who make such work with this canting word of *High-flyers*, were all *Occasional Hypocrites* too: For really by this *High-flying*, nothing else is understood by themselves, but a strict adhering of some of the best Members of our Church, to the Doctrine and Discipline of that Church, which was deliver'd down to them, and established for them, ever since the Reformation. One that was not so well acquainted with the *Flights* of our Dissenters, would be more surpriz'd to see such an Author as this, who ranks himself, to be sure, among the *true Protestants*, to make even the Protestant Queen *Elizabeth's Spirit* and *Temper* but little better than Queen *Mary's*; the rigorous *High-flyers* to have been her *Bonniers*, and her self, like her Sister, as great a Persecutor.

That her Reign as well as others, had true *English Hearts*, (like her own) who stoutly and strictly contended for the true Constitution of Church and State; we ought to be so far from being ashamed to own, That all Honest English men, and true Protestants, ought rather to glory in it: And I desire to know whether the Honestest, *i. e.* the best of their Party, do not think this Mr. *Foe* was much in the right, and whether he does not think so of himself, when he wrote to Mr. *How*, against *Occasional Conformity*, and that Mr. *How* in his lame Answer was much in the wrong? And what is all this then, but a *High-flying*, and strict maintaining of their Classical Principles, and the *Geneva* Discipline? And must then the most Learned and Religious, whose Faith is more according to Scripture and Knowledge, as well as Law, be thus Libell'd by them, for strictly adhering to the Doctrine and Discipline of a Church so long established by Law.

This impudent Reflector upon Mr. *Foe's Short Way*, (tho' it seems he had some Intimation that the Author was a Dissenter, but unacquainted with Mr. *Foe's Irony*) would needs fasten it upon a *Non Jurant* or a Papist. How like an Ass now he looks, while he is mumb-ling his own Thistle; And that so rigid a Dissenter, (and as some say, a dissenting Preacher) is, by the Con- fession of their own Party, and its Author; found to be the Writer? Himself and his Glass can best deter- mine.

Via. Ibid.
p. 15.

It is with an ill Grace, as well as bad Understanding, that he reviles the Memory of Bishop *Ridley* for a Per-secutor and Imposer, and that from the Authority of Do-ctor *B — t*; the same Letters of that Learned Author, and most Conscientious, and Self-constant Prelate, tell us too, that his Predecessor, Bishop *Jewel*, was as much for laying aside of Ceremonies as Bishop *Hooper*. What credit it is to their Memories, to make those Renowned Men so many *Occasional Bishops* too, comes much to the same, as if they had clapt a piece of *Scotch Cloth* upon them for the Adorning of their *Lawn Sleeves*; but plain it is, (that whatever Scruples these two *worthy men* had, and the Doctor their Successor, *so worthy*, may have had since, to the swallowing of Ceremonies, and wearing of the Vestments) that they all gap'd for their *Bishopricks*, and had them, and most *Occasionally* and *Conscientiously* kept them; but whether the Crown of Martyrdom, as well as the Mitre, would, with the same *Conce d'Eslire*, have been as patiently born by them all, I think is much a Doubt. This blundering Wri-ter, most unluckily in the same Page, couples toge-ther two most eminent Men more, and he letting but little come between them, we will let them go toge-ther, Mr. *John Knox*, and Doctor *G — t B — t*: I shall not differ with him about the Excellencies of those

those two Eminent Men, who, tho' they have not yet appear'd so great Martyrs, yet have given us good Proofs that they could make Martyrs of better Men.

One would think that the Reflector had fell into Mr. Foe's *Ironical* way too, when he quotes to us the *Switzerland* Letters of Dr. B. to shew what *Occasional Conformists* we had among our Bishops; he should have gone but one step further in the same *Zurick* Letter, and he would have found the same Authority for their being *Occasional Socinians* also. The *Brief Vindication* of the *Explanation* of that, since most Orthodox Prelate, do lately admit it to be an Unhappy Discovery in those Letters, that has given just Offence to a great many good Men, and therefore I wou'd not have so bad an Author as the *Reflector*, to make any great bustle with Doctor B — *it's Switzerland* Letter: If he has a mind to be an *Occasional Socinian* too, I can send him to better Authority, and that is their own Act of Parliament for *Toleration*. For,

Their Termagant Champion Mr. Toland, furiously attacks the narrowness of their Dissenting Souls, in confining the *Toleration* to their own particular Opinions; and in his *Book of Parties*, makes it only a *Toleration Party per pale*, because it does not extend to *Socinians* also; and I may well then add, *Arrians*, *Nestorians*, *Muggletonians*, and *Mahometans* too, for Mr. Foe teaches us how to make other Peoples Thoughts *speak in our words*. I am the least Envier of their *Toleration*, and have publickly defended it as far as it related to Affairs of Religion, tho' not of State; and should be the last that should give a Vote for Abolishing it; but if they will have it extend to have that *Grace* turned into *Dominion*, into a *Latitudinarian* Power of Government and Religion, of being *High-flying Lay-Elders*, *persecuting Committee-*
men,

Men, Plundering Sequestrators, damnable *Hypocrites*, as well as *Hereticks*, *Infidels* and *Atheists*, (to which we see some of their Party would needs extend it) 'tis but Charity to them, and Justice to our Legislators, to tell them, that from so good and gracious an Act, they ought not to expect it, and by so Wise and Religious a Parliament 'twas never design'd.

I will grant this inconsiderate *Reflector*, (who reads by rote, and so reflects at random) that some Dissenters in Queen *Elizabeth's* time were condemn'd to die, and some other Punishments were inflicted upon notorious Offenders of that Perswasion; but with submission to his senseless Application, it was all for Blasphemy, Sedition, or Treason, among which, *Stubbs* and *Page* lost only their Hands, when, by Law, they ought to have lost their Heads; and *Hacket* and some others for their most horrid *Blasphemies* had so much justice done them as to be hang'd; and so much good may their Martyrs do their Cause; whereas his and all the Parties Scandalous Reflections on the Memory of Archbishop *Land*, are sufficiently refuted in the Account of his Life publish'd by Mr. *Wharton*; and all that confirm'd since, by that incomparable and impartial History of my Lord *Clarendon's*. It is with the most insufferable Impudence, as well as Falsehood and Folly, that this audacious Fellow, should charge the Violences of King *James* the Second's Reign to the *High-flyers* of the Church too; at the same time themselves had gotten the Ascendant, and made it all their Business to humble and mortifie them; in which, no doubt, this inveterate *Reflector* had his share too: Fact and Record make out all this, and can best damn all his *Reflections*: Their whole Fardle of Addresses and Congratulations to that deluded Prince, with the Offerings and Sacrifices of
their

Vid. pag.
16, 17.

their Fools and Knaves too, of their Lives and Fortunes, which we soon saw they knew better what to do withal, who shew'd but just before, and soon after, that their *Religion was Rebellion, and Faith Faction*: 'Tis with all Blunder and no Grace that he reflects upon the *Regulating of Corporations, and Surrendring of Charters*; When it was solely their own *Spiritual and Temporal Sons*, in conjunction with Mr. Brent, (who, tho' some Protestants had the Name, was the true Popish Attorney General) that managed all that Affair, to the Displacing and Abdicating all the true Sons of the Church; and amongst the rest, their *High-flying Preacher Mr Lobb*, and their Heroick Champion Mr. Wade, for their signal Services at Sedgmore, were most appositely and generously sent into those very *Western* parts to make their *Regulations*, where but just before they form'd their *Rebellions*.

Vid. p. 19.

One Observation more I have to add on his Impertinent as well as Impudent *Reflections*, (which how silly they look he now sees) when instead of a *Nonjurant*, he finds a *Dissenting Recusant*, an *Antioccasional Zealous Presbyterian*, Author of all this Seditious Satyr against *Dissenters*, which himself as *Maliciously* and *Scandalously* reflects on.

And that Observation is upon the Uneasiness this Author and his *Occasional Men* are under, when any thing is Publish'd which reflects upon the *Memory or Administration* of King William. I had always that great regard for Crown'd Heads and Royal Blood, that I would no more traduce their Memories than I would violate their Persons; but if their

Vid. p. 17.

Male

Male Administrations must not be animadverted on, we must never expect any more the Histories of their Reigns. And if there were no misgovernments in his Reign, how came so many Parliamentary Inquiries and Discoveries to be made by so many several Sessions; especially in the latter end of his Reign (when the Countrey was alarm'd and began to look about them) of so many unwarrantable and abominable practices of a corrupted Court, and which had accompanied it almost from the very beginning, and upon which the Commons of *England*, in full Parliament, impeach'd so many Ministers of that Reign for High Crimes and Misdemeanours? We may both civilly and decently arraign an evil Ministry, without meddling with the Prince's memory, but that is a Decency that these sort of Reflecters seldom observe, who without any regard to the dignity of a Crown'd Head, would still most scandalously and scurrilously [as well as in some things very injuriously] Libel their late indulgent King *James*; when, as their inveterate Writer and Advocate *Samuel Johnson* since well observes, he that in King *William's* Court would but look into the *Tyring Room* should see again the *Old Actors*: And 'tis well known, the Author of all the Male-Administrations in King *James's* Reign, was the greatest Actor in King *Williams*, though *behind the curtain*. But what do these Fellows mean! Sure they jest, or like Mr. *Foe*, talk all *Irony*, when they tell us of the tender regard that is to be had to the *Memory* of Princes, or of that which they have to the *Memory* of their deceased King *William*, when their own Libels have vilify'd the Name and *Memory* of every King, from *William* the first to *William* the

the Third ; and have, with this Author's beloved Mr. *Knox* and Mr. *Gibbs*, &c. (who made the Protestant Queen *Elizabeth*, a *She Devil*, and a *Proserpine*,) in their Sermons and Books, (*a*) made the whole Generation of Kings the *Devils* (*a*) Vid. *Spor/worth. Hist. p. 423, 424.* *Barns*. The Line and Memory of the *Tudors* (as we find by this *Reflector's* Libelling Queen *Elizabeth*) is as vily treated by them as the Race of the *Stuarts* ; how that has been dealt withal too many of their late Works do too scandalously declare, (*b*) even to the Attainting of the best Blood (*b*) Vid. *Trogical Hist. of the Stuarts. Vid. Their Secret Hist. Vid. The Detection of the last Reigns, &c.* of their Darling King *William*, and deriving him by the *surer side*, from the Race of the *Riccio's* as well as *Nassaws* ; and most gloriously deducing all the Descendants of Queen *Mary* from the Loins of an *Italian* Fidler, tho' they knew it all the while to be a Forged Scandal, which *Buchanan* the Author, and her inveterate Foe, made part of his Death-bed Repentance ; And that nothing may be wanting to *blacken the Memory and Administration of the late King WILLIAM*, one of the same tender Regarders of his Memory, who of late has made a generous Collection of the Memoirs of his Life, (*c*) has (*c*) Vid. *Life of K. w. 8vo. Lond. 1702* Printed that *BLACK* particular at length, of the Barbarous Massacre of the whole Clan of *GLENCO*, not so much as omitting the *BLACK LETTER* of *Glenlyon*, which says, it was done *BY HIS MAJESTY'S SPECIAL COMMAND*.

And, indeed, if all the Male Administration of that 14 years were put together in one monumental Column, if we should take a view at once, of our so valuable *Act of Habeas Corpus*, three or four times suspended ; besides many other prerogative *Dispensations* exercised for their secret purposes, after so much Damming a *Dispensing Power* with *Abdication*.

If we should consider the Case of the Lord *M—y*, an *Englishman*, who, after a Verdict obtain'd for the saving his Estate, was order'd another Tryal for it, to the end that he might forfeit it for the sake of the Lord *R.* a *Dutchman*.

If we should consider an *High Commission Court* set up in the *Jerusalem Chamber*, within two years after King *James* was Abdicated, for his Ecclesiastical Commission in the *Council Chamber*.

If we should consider the *Retrospect Bill*, for the Forfeiting all Mr. *Duncomb's* Estate, only for what was their daily practise.

If we should consider how they strain'd the Legislative, for the taking away of Lives as well as Estates, in that unnecessary recourse they had to the *Attainder* of Sir *J. F.* and more barbarously in that *Retrospect Act* against Correspondence, by which they *Attainted* all those who for Ten years ago had but Pist in a *French Town* or Territory, tho' before any War was declar'd, or King *William* on the Throne. An Act that involv'd Hundreds of *Williamites* as well as *Jacobites*, and which their own Judges were asham'd to put in Execution.

If we should enquire into all the horrid Intrigues of *Perjury* and *Subornation*, for the Forging of Sham Plots and Conspiracies, and into the bottom and foundation of *Fuller's* first attempt, and trace all the management of it to his last enterprise.

If we should strictly search into the bottom of *Robert Young's Flower-Pot Association*, whereby so many Spiritual and Temporal Lords were to have lost their Lives, if by their Innocency and Sagacity they had not laid open all the horrid Conspiracy.

If we should look into the *Lancashire Plot*, where their own Suborned Evidence confess'd in open Court, That all the Plot was of their own making, for the taking away so many Gentlemens Lives and Estates; insomuch that the King's Council, and King's Judges, were astonish'd at the horrid Villany, and like to have been knock'd on the Head by the incens'd Country: And this not only proved by the Confession of some of the Evidence, but by the Conviction of some other of the Suborned Witnesses, of *Wilful Perjury*, at the next *Lancaster Assizes*: Some of which, after all that

that, (not to *BLACKEN* the *Memory* and *Administration* of our *Reflector's* Celebrated Reign.) were, for these signal Services to the Publick, preferr'd to good Offices in the Custom-house, and some other beneficial Places.

These (not to aggravate the vast Exhaustings of our Treasury; the ill application of our Money; the extravagant Grants under our greatest necessity; and many more such petty Grievances, hardly to be compar'd with those more enormous Violations) as they are all matter of Fact and Record, so they admit of no more Palliation than Dispute; of which you may see more at large in the Bishop of *Rochester's* two Books, in the account of the *Manchester* Tryals, and in a Treatise lately Publish'd under the Title of *Lex Talionis*.

Now, as I would have the Memory of no good Prince suffer for the male Administration of his evil Ministers, so I think these sort of *Reflectors* who have so often Libell'd the whole Line and Geneology of all our Princes, have the least reason in the world to be angry or surpris'd, if they see some *Englishmen* or *Scotchmen*, bear no more regard to the *Dutch* House of *Nassaw*, than some of themselves have shewn to the glorious Race of our *English* *Tudors* and the long and Regal Line of the *Stuarts*; to which, out of decency to Her most Excellent Majesty, in whom it centers, if not expires, the most malicious or occasional *Whiggs*, ought to pay a little more respect.

And now having done Mr. *Foe* the Favour, to animadvert a little upon his *Reflector*, which whither it be Mr. *Foe* himself, who answers himself; which by *Irony* may easily be done too, especially when it helps to Publish a Second Edition of his *Short Way*; be it so, or be it not, it is done by as scandalous and malicious an Hand, and with the same *seditionous Design* against the Church and State; and whose Author, our Right Honourable Secretaries may Enquire after, as much as *Foe* himself; with whom, after we have quitted his *Dull* and *Dark* Adversary, we must have this little parting Blow. I

(a) Vid. 2d.
Edition of
the Shortest
Way print-
ed with the
Reflections.

I find his True Irony (a) to be no where more Buffoonry and Banter, than when such a Satyrift as Foe comes to congratulate the Flourishing, or Commiserate the Suffering State of the Purest Church (as he calls ours) in the World; we admit there he speaks most other Peoples Thoughts in his own Words, but his own Words I am sure don't speak his own Thoughts. 'Tis as true Irony there, as when a Man of his Life, pretends to write for the Reformation of Manners. I don't know in what particular Her Majesty (who has been so Gracious to all People and Parties alike) has disoblged Mr. Foe, unless he has Petition'd to set up his Brick and Pan Tile Work in Tilbury Fort and been deny'd it; and indeed all the Quarrel they have to Church and State, comes to this Point: For the Good Queen has indeed one of the First Touches of his Irony too, and is as impudently and seditiously banter'd in Her (b) Throne, being possess'd by a Royal, English, True and ever constant Member of, and Friend to the Church of England.

(b) Vid.
The Short-
est Way,
&c.

'Tis well known Her Majesty, in some of Her First Speeches, profess'd herself to have A True English Heart, and upon several accounts since, has made it appear to be truly so in good earnest. Now how such a Factious Buffoon can turn all this into Jest and Ridicule, without having any seditious Design, is as unconceivable as it ought to be unpardonable; and the Ridiculing and Buffooning of Her Gracious Promise, to continue them in their tolerated Liberty, is another of his Ungrateful and Malicious Banter; and instead of Irony (a Figure rude enough to Complement Majesty) is more properly a Spightful and Seditious Sarcastm, to insult that Excellent Queen for Her Grace and good Nature.

(c) Vid.
Brief Ex-
plan. P. 4

After all, briefly (c) to use his own Words; never has an Author ventur'd so far to have all Mankind to call him Villain and Traitor to his Country. Never did L'Estrange in his Toleration Discuss'd, nor in all his bitter Writings and Observations shew since; nor was ever Book Publish'd, or Sermons Preached

Preach'd ; with half that Gall and Bitterness against Dissenters, nor ever were such Arguments produc'd for their Persecution, as this most *Ironical* Author of their own Church has oblig'd them withal ; good Nature and our common Christianity, will avert with good Men of both Religions all the ill Effects this Banter may produce among the bad ; but all the while there will be no thanks due to any want of Malice, Folly, or Faction, in this seditious and malicious Author.

The most impudent *Irony* is to be seen in his (d) *Brief Ex-* (a) Vid. *planation*, where he has the Confidence to *protest the Ho-* P. 4. *nesty of his Intention* ; and the making his Expressions a *Jacobite Cant*, is only an Equivocal and Jesuitical Evasion, equal to that Hypocrisie they show in their *Occasional Conformity* ; for the Malice, it is plain, was aim'd and directed against the Queen and the Ministry ; against the House of Commons for bringing in that *Occasional Bill* ; and the Church Party, from whom they had those horrid Apprehensions, tho' without *Occasion*. If it had not been purely Malice and a seditious Design to do Mischiefe, why did he take all these Pains, to strike this *Ironical Terror*, and fear of a Mock-Persecution, into the very Hearts of the Dissenters ? He professes himself to have no Apprehensions of it from the *Occasional Bill*, but he knew most others had ; and that therefore, this was the best time to give the Alarm, to cry out First, *The Philistins were upon them* ; and then the next Cry is, *The Sword of the Lord and of Gideon*. These are a Sort of *Ironies* that have cost us too dear in *England* ; and we don't desire such Dialogues, or playing the Fool and Knave betwixt Jest and Earnest, to bring us back again into the same Circumstances.

'Tis hard to imagine what it is these uneasie sort of Men would have, or their turbulent Spirits are in such a Ferment for ; Would they be all Queen *Ann's* Favourites, because they were so lately King *William's* ? Why ? To that, she has given them a Fair Opportunity too, by letting them

D

know

know, that a Strict, and not *Occasional Conformity*, is the way to obtain it ; or would they have Her Majesty violate (for them) as K. J. did, Her First Solemn Declarations, and make *Nonconformity* or *Occasional Conformity* the First Steps to Her Favour ? Mr. Foe's *Irony*, indeed, seems to have a great Tendency that way, when he pretends to Banter Her out of Her Gracious Promises to both, and to shew that She can't pretend to tolerate the Dissenters, while she promises to maintain the Church of *England* as *Established* by Law. Would these Gentlemen have the same Licentiousness and Liberty of their Tongues and Pens allow'd them, as well as Conscience, which they so happily enjoy'd, and so maliciously and mischievously made use of in the last Reign ? Would they have our Hierarchy and Monarchy, by Democraticks and Scismaticks, to be as much insulted on in this Reign, as they were in the last, from Sam. Johnson's *K. ALLEND'S OF MAY*, down to the very *Almanacks* of John Partridge ? If so, we shall never be able (without an irony too) to think our selves the better for the Change. The Church Party never yet (as far as I have found) leagued themselves so strictly for Advancing one the other, that They, who were always such Drudges and Proggers for one another, and the Common Cause and Confederacy, should be now so much afraid to be supplanted by better Men ; they can't but see, that some of those that were prefer'd in the last Reign, for no other Merit but their being Enemies to the Constitution of our Church and State, quietly enjoy their Profitable and Honourable Employments in This ; and that the Descendants of Traitors, Rebels, and Regicides, whose Parents have been out-law'd, exil'd, or hang'd for High Treason, and whose hereditary Principles they retain in their Blood, retain to all those beneficial Places, which, to the Credit of the last Government, were bestowed upon them, (if they doubt or deny it) I will, by the next, send them a glorious Catalogue of their Immortal Names : Whilst others more True and Orthodox,

who

who would have stop'd the Drivings of these *Jehu's*, still Trot it in the Streets, whilst these Sons of *Nimshi* Coach and rattle it by their Side : The Government's Natural Lenity, and their *Occasional Hypocrisie* can do no more for them !

I shall not much concern my self with Mr. *Foe's Fair Character*, which at present *speaks* very badly for it Self ; nor enquire about it, much less Charge him with being the Author of the *Legion*, the *Black List*, the *Kentish Feast*, or any other of the Virulent Libels, with which the late House of Commons, and our best Patriots, were so scandalously **Blackned**, and that against the very Maxims, Principles and Practises of these most *Ironical Whiggs*, who no more believed what they said, than Mr. *Foe* can be thought willing to *mumble his own Thistle*, or suffer all the Persecution he has prescribed in his *Short Way*. However, I would not have made an *Irony* too of my Defence, and made such a pitiful *Postscript* for clearing of the Charge, where he seems not to have Impudence enough to deny it, nor Humility enough to lose the Honour of it, nor Honesty enough to be ashamed of the Imputation ; so that whatever his Character does, his *Postscript* speaks only in the Words of the Famous Mr. *Hickeringill*, when for some such Practises he was to be tryed at Doctors Commons, *Quisq; presumitur esse bonus, donec contrarium probatur*. It is a Rule in our Common Law, and a Maxim in our Civil, and therefore in common Right, and common Civility, let him make the best of it.

I shall only end with him as merrily as he begins with the Dissenters ; and since he is so exquisite in the Application of Mythology, tell him of a Tale or Two as pleasant, and as well apply'd.

That his Fable of *The Cock and Horses*, is now come to the Story of a Cock and a Bull, and a Tale of a Tubb ; that without the Help of an *Æsop*, we have found who eat the Figs by his Spewing them up again ; and that the Cunning Ass, in spite of all the Disguise of the Lyon's Skin, with which he frighten'd the *Common Herd*, was known by his Ears ; and deservedly for the Cheat, or *Ironical Figure* that he made, fell under the Correction of his Master. FINIS.

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